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LETTER DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters concerning violations committed in Iraqi airspace and Iraqi territory by helicopters belonging to the United States of America and its allies and operating from Turkish airspace, I should like to notify you of those cases monitored during the period 21 August to 10 September 1991. They are as follows:

1. On 21 August 1991, 10 helicopters were observed coming from Dohuk. They flew over the Fayidah area and then returned towards Zakho.

2. On 22 August 1991, eight helicopters were observed coming from Zartiyah and heading in the direction of the Atrush intersection. Five helicopters were observed coming from the Harir area towards Aqrah.

3. On 23 August 1991, seven helicopters were observed over the Aqrah and Shaykhan areas. They then returned towards Zakho. Five helicopters were observed coming from the Harir area. They flew over the Fayidah area and then returned in the direction from which they had come.

4. On 26 August 1991, five helicopters flew over the Aqrah and Shaykhan areas.

5. On 28 August 1991, five helicopters flew over the area to the south of the city of Dohuk. Two of them landed and the others flew on. The two that had landed then took off, and all of them left in the direction of Zakho.

6. On 29 August 1991, five helicopters were observed coming from the Zawitah area. They flew over the area to the south of Dohuk and returned towards Aqrah.

7. On 1 September 1991, five helicopters flew over the Fayidah area. They reconnoitered the Dohuk-Mosul highway and then returned towards Zakho.

8. On 3 September 1991, two helicopters flew over the Fayidah area and returned towards Zakho.

9. On 5 September 1991, three helicopters were observed coming from Dohuk. They flew over the Aqrah area and then returned towards Dohuk.

10. On 8 September 1991, five helicopters flew over the Fayidah area and returned towards Dohuk.

11. On 9 September 1991, five helicopters were observed coming from Turkish territory. They flew over the Shaykhan area and returned towards Zakho. Six helicopters were observed coming from Dohuk and heading towards the south. They returned in the direction from which they had come.

12. Between 1800 and 2100 hours on 10 September 1991, considerable American helicopter activity was monitored over the Shaykhan-Atrush area in the Nineveh governorate. During that time, 14 low-altitude sorties were flown.

The Government of my country, stating once again that it protests in the strongest terms against actions on the part of the United States of America that are in violation of the rules of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, further registers a strong protest against the Turkish Government for permitting aircraft of the coalition forces to use its territory and its airspace for violations of Iraq's territorial integrity and of its airspace in contravention of the principles of international law and of the Iraq-Turkey border treaty of 1926. Furthermore, such conduct on the part of Turkey does grave harm to the relations of good-neighbourliness and cooperation between the Iraqi and Turkish peoples.

In informing you of these violations, I request you to take the appropriate measures to bring them to a halt in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and the principles it enshrines.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative